

In the claims:

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1. A method of rendering a low-resolution resultant image at an embedded imaging device, comprising:

capturing an original digital negative at the embedded imaging device at an original resolution;

modifying the original digital negative to form a first resultant image at a first resolution;

10 generating a first edit list based upon the modifying;

associating the first edit list with the first resultant image;

linking the first edit list to the original digital negative;

displaying the first resultant digital image on a display device coupled to the embedded imaging device;

15 modifying the first resultant image to form a second resultant image at the first resolution;

generating a second edit list based upon the modifying the first resultant image;

associating the second edit list with the second resultant image;

20 linking the second edit list to the original digital negative;

storing the linked second edit list, the original digital negative, and the second resultant image at the embedded imaging device; and

displaying the second resultant image at the display device.

2. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:  
coupling the embedded imaging device to a first node;  
at a second node coupled to the first node,  
receiving the linked second edit list and the original digital negative;  
5 operating on the original digital negative based upon the received linked  
second edit list to form the second resultant image at the original resolution; and  
transferring the second resultant image at the original resolution to the first  
node;  
outputting the second resultant image at the original resolution at an  
10 output device coupled to the first node.
3. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein at the first node,  
operating on the original digital negative based upon the stored linked  
second edit list to form the second resultant image at the original resolution; and  
15 outputting the second resultant image at the original resolution at an  
output device coupled to the first node.
4. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the embedded imaging device is  
selected from a group comprising: a digital still camera, a digital video camera, an  
20 internet appliance, a WEB based camera.
5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the display device is selected  
from a group comprising: an LCD screen and TV.

6. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the original resolution is a highest resolution and wherein the first resolution is a lowest resolution.

7. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the second node is directly  
5 connected to a server computer connected to the first node by way of an interconnected network of computers.

8. A method as recited in claim 3, wherein the first node and the second node are directly coupled in a peer-to-peer arrangement.

10 9. A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the first node and the second node are wirelessly coupled.

10. An apparatus for rendering a low-resolution image at an embedded imaging device, comprising:

15 a means for capturing an original digital negative at the embedded imaging device at an original resolution;

a means for generating a thumbnail digital image of the original digital negative at a first resolution;

20 a means for displaying the thumbnail digital image on a display device coupled to the embedded imaging device;

a means for modifying the thumbnail digital image to form a first resultant image at the first resolution;

a means for generating a first edit list based upon the modifying;  
a means for associating the first edit list with the first resultant image;  
a means for linking the first edit list to the original digital negative;  
a means for storing the linked first edit list, the original digital negative,  
5 and the first resultant image at the embedded imaging device; and  
a means for displaying the first resultant image at the display device.

11. A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

A means for coupling the embedded imaging device to a first node;  
10 at a second node coupled to the first node.

a means for receiving the linked first edit list and the original digital  
negative;

a means for operating on the original digital negative based upon the  
received linked edit list to form the first resultant image at the original resolution; and

15 a means for transferring the first resultant image at the original resolution  
to the first node;

a means for outputting the first resultant image at the original resolution at  
an output device coupled to the first node.

20 12. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein at the first node,

a means for operating on the original digital negative based upon the  
stored linked edit list to form the first resultant image at the original resolution; and

a means for outputting the first resultant image at the original resolution at an output device coupled to the first node.

13. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the embedded imaging device is selected from a group comprising: a digital still camera, a digital video camera, an internet appliance, a WEB based camera.

14. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the display device is selected from a group comprising: an LCD screen, TV.

15. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the original resolution is a highest resolution and wherein the first resolution is a lowest resolution.

16. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the second node is directly connected to a server computer connected to the first node by way of an interconnected network of computers.

17. A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the first node and the second node are directly coupled in a peer-to-peer arrangement.

18. A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the first node and the second node are wirelessly coupled.

19. In a distributed system, an on-demand method of transferring a lower resolution resultant image from a first node to a second node that preserves an ability to form a higher resolution resultant image at the second node, comprising:

at the first node,

(a) generating a first resultant image at a first resolution;

(b) rasterizing the first resultant image to form a second resultant image at a second resolution;

(c) transferring the second resultant image to the second node;

at the second node,

(d) selecting a third resolution;

(e) rasterizing the second resultant image to form a third resultant image at the third resolution.

20. A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the generating a first resultant image comprises:

(f) retrieving a digital negative of an original digital image;

(g) modifying the digital negative to form the first resultant image at the first resolution;

(h) associating a first edit list based on the modifying with the first resultant image;

(i) linking the first edit list to the digital negative.

21. A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the rasterizing the first resultant image comprises:

(j) modifying the first resultant image to form the second resultant image  
5 at the second resolution;

(k) associating a second edit list based on the modifying (j) with the second resultant image at the second resolution and the first resultant image;

(l) linking the second edit list to the digital negative.

10 22. A method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:  
at the second node,

if it is determined that the third resolution is the first resolution,

(m) sending a digital negative request to the first node;

15 (n) receiving the requested digital negative and the linked first edit  
list;

(o) modifying the requested digital negative based upon the first edit list to form the first resultant image at the first resolution.

20 23. A method as recited in claim 22, wherein the first node is a first  
computing device coupled to a first input device and a first output device and wherein the  
second node is a second computing device coupled to a second output device and a  
second input device.

24. A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the second node is a server computer.

25. A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the first computing device and  
5 the second computing device are linked in a peer-to-peer arrangement.

26. A method as recited in claim 25, wherein the first computing device and  
the second computing device are wirelessly linked.

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